

REMARKS

The Examiner will note independent claim 1 has been amended in a manner believed to provide a more precise recitation of the claimed invention. Claim 2 remains dependent on claim 1. The only claims presently under consideration in this application include amended claim 1 and claim 2. For the reasons to be hereinafter indicated, it is believed that this application should now be in condition for allowance.

The present invention provides an air fan for efficiently cooling a radiator by positioning a lower surface of the driving section of a fan inwardly of a frame bottom surface with locating members having upwardly bent inner ends to permit the lower surface of the driving section to define an open space through which enlarged air flow to a radiator below the frame is realized, thereby providing enhanced heat dissipation.

The rejection of claims 1 and 2 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention is believed to be duly overcome through the present amendments to claim 1.

The rejection of claim 1 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by the Hsieh U.S. patent 6,579,064 is respectfully traversed. Hsieh discloses an air fan assembly comprised of a stator 20 mounted on a circuit board 21 and an associated rotor 30. The assembly is disposed within a housing 10 provided with a cover 40 having an opening 41 formed therein and a bottom plate 11 provided with a socket on which the stator 20 and circuit board 21 are mounted. The socket is supported by three struts which define a plurality of arcuate notches 14. During operation of the fan assembly, air flow is drawn into the housing through opening 41 and notches 14, and subsequently blown out through an outlet formed in a side of housing 10.

There is no teaching by this reference of providing a plurality of locating members having inner ends that are upwardly bent to support and position a lower surface of a fan driving section inwardly of a bottom surface of a frame to define an open space. The circuit board 21 of the Hsieh device completely covers the rim of the socket on which it is mounted, thereby precluding the defining of an open space through which air flow may be received to contact an enlarged area of an associated radiator. In fact, the Hsieh device draws air inwardly from notches 14 for subsequent exit through side outlet 131 so it would be virtually impossible for air flow generated by rotor 30 to pass below circuit board 21 and through notches 14 for cooling an associated radiator in the manner of the invention. Thus, it is believed abundantly clear that the Hsieh fan assembly is both structurally and functionally different from the air fan claimed for the present invention.

The rejection of claim 2 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hsieh in view of the Chang patent 6,244,818 is also traversed. The inclined outer surfaces of the locating members 211b of the present invention enable quicker airflow to the space below the lower surface 211d of driving section 211a. The Chang guard blades 203, indicated by the Examiner as being "locating members," extend outwardly from a shaft ring 212 and are fixed for directing air flow from a plurality of rotor blades 213. Guard blades 203 serve a function that is completely different from the struts supporting the socket in the Hsieh patent. Since it has already been shown that the Hsieh patent is structurally and functionally different from the present invention, it is not seen how configuring the struts of the Hsieh housing according to the Chang guard blades 203 can in any way duplicate the claimed invention.

The remaining references cited of record but not applied against the claims, including the Scott et al U.S. Patent 5,188,508 and O'Conner U.S. Patent 4,063,852, have been reviewed, but these disclosures are not seen to affect the patentability of the invention as now claimed by Applicant.

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The Examiner will note claim 1 has been amended to provide a more definite recitation of the invention. In particular, the axial extension of the bent inner ends of the locating members extend into the frame for positioning a lower surface of the driving section inwardly of a bottom surface of the frame to define an open space through which air flow may be permitted for contacting an enlarged area of an associated radiator for providing enhanced heat dissipation. None of the references of record, whether considered individually or in any combination, is pertinent to the invention as presently claimed by Applicant.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully urged that amended claims 1 and 2 should now be allowable and prompt notice to this effect is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner should have any questions concerning this matter, the undersigned may be reached at his Alexandria, Virginia office at 703-683-0500.

Respectfully submitted,
BACON & THOMAS, PLLC



EUGENE MAR
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 25,893

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BACON & THOMAS, PLLC
625 Slaters Lane, Fourth Floor
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Telephone: 703-683-0500
Facsimile: 703-683-1080

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